

“Friends of the Seafarers”

Tampa Seafarers Center / Tampa Port Ministries, Inc.

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Caring for the Port Community

May was a busy month at the Tampa Seafarers Center. We were able to visit 76 ships in May, that is 7 more ships than May of 2012. We had 38 Seafarers visit the center during the month. 46 Seafarers accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior in May!!! These 46 were from the following countries. The Philippines, Myanmar and India. Each month we are able to minister to approximately 1,800 crew members on cruise ships and 1,500 crew members on cargo vessels. We appreciate your prayers and support which makes all of this possible.

Captain Tony found the fountain of youth!

I visited a vessel the other day and at the top of the gangway met the Captain of the ship. He escorted me to the crew mess room where I generally can meet with crew members, talk to them and sometimes get to eat some interesting food. Captain Tony explained to me that most of the crew were working and that some had already gone shopping but he sat down with me and we had a nice conversation about his ship and the crew. As I always try to do I worked our conversation around to talking about Jesus and I asked Captain Tony if he knew he would go to heaven if he died. He said boldly yes and then proceeded to tell me that this is the promise we have from God if we trust in Jesus Christ as our Saviour. He also talked to me about the fact that he felt an obligation to share this knowledge with the rest of his crew so they have regular Bible studies on board the ship. I don't often encounter crews that are this active in their faith and it is a blessing when I do get to spend some time with them. As my conversation with Captain Tony continued I discovered that he is 56 years old and was quite surprised because he looked a full 20 years younger. He smiled and said that he is kept young by the fact that he smiles a lot and is happy. He attributed his happiness to the joy he has in the Lord. Captain Tony has found the true fountain of youth!!! If you have time today meditate on what Jesus said in John 7:38 “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

2013 Tampa Port Ministries Anchor Ball - October 26th

This years Anchor Ball will be held on October 26th at 6:00 p.m. We will be celebrating at the Embassy Suites Tampa—Downtown Convention Center located at 513 S. Florida Avenue Tampa, FL 33602

This is a black tie optional gala event featuring dinner, live and silent auctions. For more information please visit our website www.TampaPortMinistries.com

If you would like to assist with this years event by donating items for either the live or silent auction please call the office at 813-247-5237.

If you would prefer to receive our email version of the “Friends of the Seafarers” newsletter please visit our website and sign up for our email newsletter at www.tampaseafarerscenter.com

Tampa Seafarers Center, 1912 Eastport Drive Tampa, FL 33605, 813-247-5237

Volunteer Opportunities

If you're interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact us. We'd love to talk with you about how you can use your spiritual gifts and talents to meet the needs of Seafarers visiting the Tampa Seafarers Center. God has called each of us to partner with Him in reaching the world for Christ. The world comes to The Port of Tampa — we need people who will join us in meeting them when they are here.

Dispatchers/Hosts/Hostesses—

Answer the phones and arrange transportation for seafarers and greet visitors to the center and make them feel welcome.

Van Drivers—Provide transportation from the ship to ministry center and/or shopping venues.

Prayer Partners—God moves through the prayers of His people. We are in need of people who will commit to praying for Tampa Port Ministries on a regular basis.

Fundraiser Volunteer—Fundraising is a never ending need for us so if you are gifted in this area we would welcome your help.